

community. I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting her as she is being inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

IN HONOR OF CLARE FLANNERY,
IRISH WOMAN OF THE YEAR, 1995

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 3, 1995

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Clare Flannery, Irish Woman of the Year, 1995, who will be honored at this year's St. Patrick's Day parade in Jersey City. Ms. Flannery is among the many Irish-American men and women who have helped make this country great.

The Irish have been immigrating to the United States since the early part of the 19th century. In that time, they have made many contributions to this country. They have distinguished themselves at every level of American society. As Irish-Americans have built their businesses, so have they contributed to the economic prosperity of this Nation. As they have grown politically, they have contributed to government on the local, State and national levels. Their devotion to family and friends demonstrates that much can be accomplished when people work together in harmony.

At home, Irish-Americans have worked hard to protect all of us from crime and fire. They have put their lives on the line to help ensure the safety of their fellow citizens. The long, proud tradition of Irish police officers and firemen scarcely needs to be mentioned. However, the Irish have not only been good neighbors at home, they have also put their lives on the line when they have fought to defend this Nation against our foes in every major conflict over the last 200 years.

Clare Flannery is part of this great Irish-American tradition. She is an active member of Project Children, which is an Irish community-based organization that pays to fly almost 1,000 children from Northern Ireland to the United States each year. The goal of Project Children is to offer the youngsters a respite from the violence which has plagued their homeland for over 25 years. This organization would not run as successfully as it does, if it were not for the dedication of people like Clare Flannery.

Ms. Flannery has done this while raising a family of her own. She is the proud mother of four children and a grandmother of four. She has been successful in raising a family, while at the same time helping the community. In doing so, she has set a positive example for all of us.

As we celebrate St. Patrick's Day, let us remember all of those Irish-American men and women who have made a difference in the United States. This is a day for us to acknowledge their achievements and feel proud to have them in the United States. This holiday is an excellent opportunity to pay tribute to Irish-Americans; past and present.

SELMA

HON. CYNTHIA A. MCKINNEY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 3, 1995

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, as bigots and supremacists across the Nation bask in their new Republican majorities, this weekend's re-enactment of the Selma to Montgomery march couldn't have come at a better time.

Thirty years ago, my friend and colleague JOHN LEWIS had his head bashed in on the Edmund Pettus Bridge because he dared to march for voting rights in the South. That historic march to Montgomery gave us the Voting Rights Act which is now under attack from every sector: Majority and minority districts are being challenged in the courts, Governors are trying to kill motor-voter, and now affirmative action has become the new Republican wedge issue to divide people.

Mr. Speaker, while the bigots and supremacists feel emboldened by a Republican Congress, I invite them to come to Selma this weekend and witness our resolve to fight.

DESIGNATE THE TRAIL FROM
SELMA TO MONTGOMERY AS A
NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 3, 1995

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to designate the road from Selma to Montgomery as a National Historic Trail. The road from Selma to Montgomery was the last symbolic leg in the journey to the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Thirty years ago this month we tried to march from Selma to Montgomery to demonstrate for voting rights for all. As the non-violent marchers crossed the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, we were attacked by State troopers. I myself was beaten bloody. The country was outraged. Two days later, the marchers made a second attempt and turned back to avoid more bloodshed.

One week later, President Lyndon Johnson addressed the Nation and called for passage of the Voting Rights Act. He said:

I speak tonight for the dignity of man and the destiny of democracy * * * at times, history and fate meet at a single time in a single place to shape a turning point in man's unending search for freedom. So it was at Lexington and Concord. So it was a century ago in Appomattox. And so it was last week in Selma, Alabama.

This weekend we go back to Selma for the 30th anniversary of the marches. We go back to remember what happened and to rededicate ourselves to the importance of voting rights.

We have come a long way. In 1965, there were 500 African-American elected officials in the country. There were fewer than 100 in the South. In 1995, more than 7,000 African-Americans hold elective office—nearly 5,000 of them in the South.

However, we still have a long way to travel on our journey. In the 1992 Presidential election, only 56 percent of the voting age popu-

lation voted. In the 1994 midterm elections only 38 percent voted. This is a tragedy.

The designation of the route from Selma to Montgomery will educate and remind us of the right and responsibility to vote. It will also give important recognition to the men and women who dedicated their lives for voting rights for all Americans.

In 1990, Congress enacted the Selma to Montgomery National Trail Study Act and directed the National Park Service to study the trail. Their report is complete. It is time to make this important part of American history a national historic trail.

I urge all my colleagues to join me as co-sponsors of this important bill. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

NONPOINT SOURCE WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION ACT OF 1995

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 3, 1995

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, today I have introduced the Nonpoint Source Water Pollution Prevention Act of 1995, the sequel to what is now section 319 of the Clean Water Act, nonpoint source management programs.

The Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 set the Nation on its current cleanup course. The first line of that landmark legislation, in section 101(a), declares it the objective of the act "to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters."

Until now, municipalities and industries have borne the brunt of this commitment. Since 1972 American citizens as Federal and State taxpayers have spent more than \$75 billion to clean up municipal point sources. Industry, and citizens as consumers, have spent over \$130 billion on cleaning up industrial point sources, including \$67 billion in capital expenditures and \$63 billion in operating costs.

Despite that costly sacrifice, fully one-third of the Nation's rivers, half of our estuaries, and more than half of our lakes are not meeting designated uses. Only about half of our river miles, two-thirds of lake acres, and three-quarters of our estuaries have even been assessed, meaning that a much more significant though unknown number of waterbodies are impaired, and more are threatened.

Dredging, to remove sediment from our harbors and navigation channels, costs American taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars each year. Polluted water from upstream forces communities to add expensive treatment technologies to both their drinking water and wastewater facilities. The outbreak of cryptosporidium in Milwaukee, caused by animal pathogens washed into the drinking water from farms upriver, are an illustration of the costs of nonpoint sources in terms of human health.

The major cause of this failure to meet the standards is nonpoint sources of pollution [NPS]—or poison runoff—the unfinished agenda of the 1972 act.

The program in my bill builds on established Federal, State, and local programs: the Nonpoint Management Program in the Clean Water Act, the nonpoint source provisions of